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**ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH**



A SUMMARY REPORT

1969

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February 28, 1970

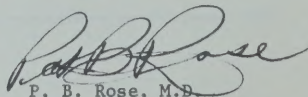
To The Honourable Mr. James D. Henderson
Minister of Health
318 Legislative Building
Edmonton, Alberta

Sir:

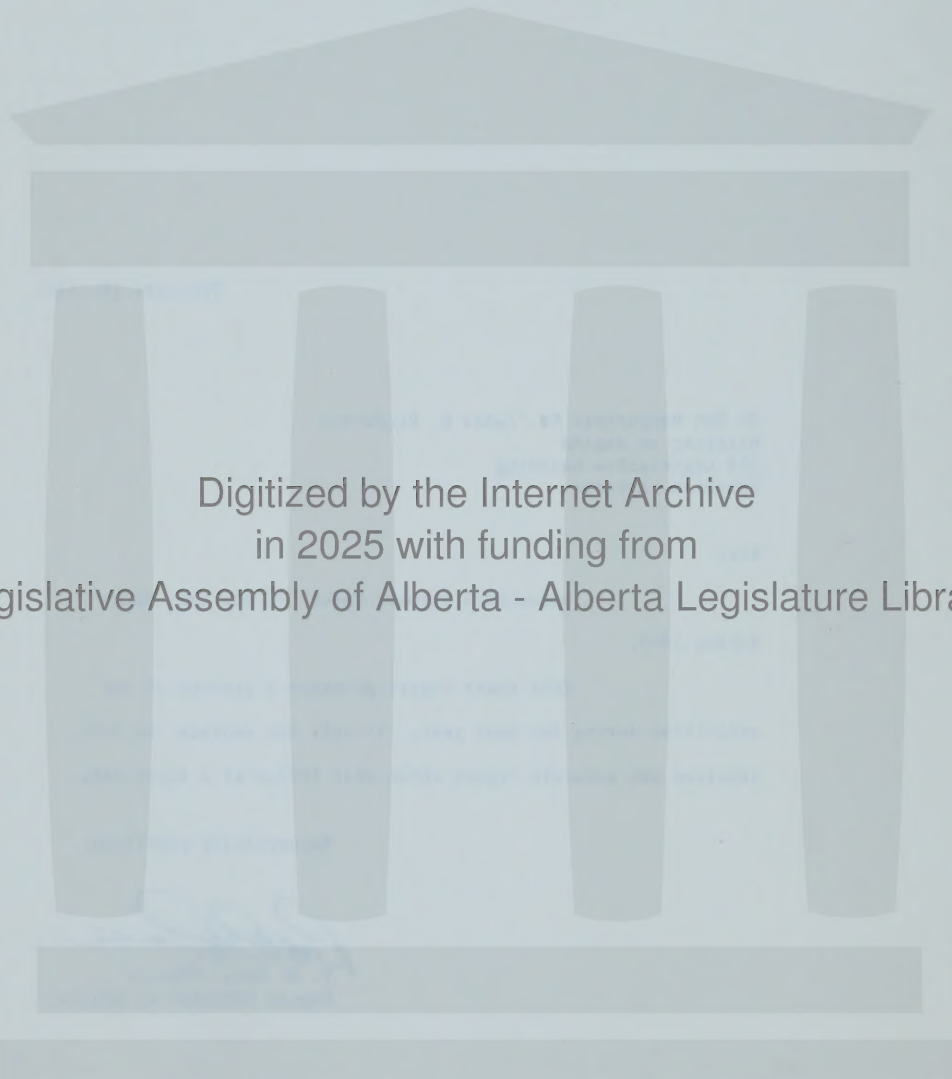
Herewith a Summary Report of the Department
during 1969.

This short report presents a picture of our
activities during the past year. It will not replace the full,
detailed and accurate report which will follow at a later date.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P. B. Rose', is written over the printed name.

P. B. Rose, M.D.
Deputy Minister of Health



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APPROPRIATION 2402

Division of General Administration

Accounting Office - A. S. Fitzsimmons, B.Comm., Department Accountant

Personnel Office - S. G. Coombs, Director of Personnel

Accounting Office

The Department Accounting Office is pleased to report the completion of another successful year.

Earlier in 1969 some limitations were imposed on accounting activities owing to staff shortages. Particularly affected were the periodic inspections of accounting, budgetting and expenditure controls in all accounting offices located within Department of Health Sanatoria and Mental Health Hospitals. However, with the appointment of an additional accountant near the close of the year all vacant positions have now been occupied, making for a total complement of sixteen in the central accounting office, and with the additions to staff the full range of accounting functions has now been restored. These functions remain essentially as listed in the 1968 Summary Report.

1969 saw the introduction of several purchased services contracts, substantial modifications to procedures for payment of medical accounts due to our Province's participation in the Federal Medicare Plan, the restructuring of institutional room, board and laundry rates, refinement of document destruction procedures, establishment of a department library and implementation of standards set by departmental committee on staff uniforms specifications - in all of which the Accounting Office was totally committed or played a prominent role.

As measures of general activity the following data may be of interest. Revenue items received during the year numbered 3,996 for a total cash intake of approximately \$6,000,000.00. Expenditure documents received from the self-accounting offices during the year under review totalled 19,244, and from the non-self-accounting Divisions 9,480. One area of briskness is reflected in submission from self-accounting offices of 1,165 travel expense accounts, and from the non-self-accounting offices 1,989. Purchase documents processed numbered 7,687, for a gross dollar value approaching 4 1/3 millions.

The Department Accounting Office warmly appreciates the interest, co-operation and assistance of all individuals and agencies with whom it has come in contact in 1969.

Personnel Office

The Personnel Department assumed greater responsibility during the year in respect to certain aspects of recruitment and classification. This undertaking is in keeping with a planned program of decentralization instituted by the Personnel Administration Office. Ultimately some of these responsibilities will be passed to the institutions.

It is felt that excellent progress was made in the area of employee relations. Twenty-five visits were made by the Supervisor of Employee Relations to the institutions to participate in staff meetings and counsel employees on an individual basis.

It is significant to note that only seven grievances were filed during the year, all of which were satisfactorily resolved.

There were seven dismissals from the service resulting in three appeals. Two were successfully defended and the third is pending.

A marked improvement occurred in recruitment, especially in regard to professional nursing staff. However, problems still exist in attracting psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers to institutional settings.

Considerable information has been collected in respect to advertising which should result in a more effective program of recruitment. Further, useful contacts have been made with Universities, Schools of Social Work, etc.

Progress has been made in staff development and training, with the continuance and improvement in indoctrination and in-service training programs. Safety training and fire fighting courses have been introduced in some areas.

A very successful course for activity aides was initiated through the University of Alberta, which will be very beneficial to the Institutions.

A continual surveillance of staff establishments has been maintained resulting in a significant number of classification changes and improvement in staff utilization. The appointment of a Supervisor of Classification and Standards will permit a more intensive program in this area, especially in regard to up-dating and reviewing classification of positions.

The checking and processing of a large volume of documentation continues to be a matter of concern, but indications are that methods to reduce the volume are being developed.

Position Establishment

as at

December 31, 1969

<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Holiday and Sick Relief</u>
2401	Minister's Office	3	0
2402	General Administration	39	4
2403	Epidemiology	6	0
2405	Vital Statistics	26	4
2409	Civil Service Nurse	2	0
2410	Alcoholism	116	6
2414	Communicable Diseases	2	0
2415	Health Units	2	0
2416	Municipal Nursing Service	3	0
2417	Dental Health Services	2	0
2418	Public Health Education	7	1
2422	Social Hygiene	30	2
2425	Environmental Health Services	61	7
2428	Industrial Health Services	14	0
2430	Medical Services	18	0
2431	Northern Alberta Health Services	3	0
2436	Nursing Aides	24	2
2437	Laboratory and X-Ray School	6	0
2442	Cerebral Palsy Clinic	21	0
2443	Arthritis Services	3	0
2444	Multiple Handicapped Program	3	0
2455	Tuberculosis Control	29	3
2456	Aberhart Memorial Sanatorium	232	57
2457	Baker Memorial Sanatorium	315	58
2460	Mental Health	132	29
2463	Alberta Hospital, Ponoka	767	166
2465	Alberta Hospital, Edmonton	848	147
2467	Rosehaven, Camrose	287	79
2468	Alberta Hospital, Claresholm	249	46
2469	Alberta Hospital, Raymond	31	8
2472	Emotionally Disturbed Children's Program	8	1
2475	Alberta School Hospital, Red Deer	684	194
2477	Deerhome, Red Deer	679	176
		<u>4652</u>	<u>990</u>

APPROPRIATION 2403

Division of Epidemiology

E. S. O. Smith, M.Sc., M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H., D.I.H., C.R.C.P.(C) - Director

Epidemiology is the study of the distribution and determinants of disease prevalence in man. Its traditional association with communicable disease is explained by the fact that epidemics were also of this nature. Modern epidemiology, however, is concerned with the whole spectrum of human disease, and has a particular role to play in the study of to-day's epidemics of heart disease, accidents, cancer and chronic respiratory disease.

Since its establishment in September 1967 the Division of Epidemiology has concentrated on assisting Divisions of the Department and other agencies related to the Department with the design and conduct of epidemiological studies, the collection, processing and tabulation of data and the statistical evaluation of results. These activities have been concerned in some cases with existing programs, in other cases with special studies or research projects.

In connection with existing programs, assistance and data processing services have been provided on a continuing basis to:

1. The Division of Medical Services in relation to the Registry for Handicapped Children and Adults;
2. The Division of Mental Health in relation to psychiatric admissions and separations;
3. The Division of Social Hygiene in relation to reported cases of venereal disease;
4. The Division of Local Health Services in relation to reported cases of other notifiable diseases;
5. The Division of Vital Statistics in relation to the indexing of old birth registrations;
6. The Provincial Cancer Hospitals Board in relation to all new registrants at cancer clinics.

In connection with special studies and research projects, assistance and data processing services have been given on a limited term basis to the Division of Local Health Services for a study of public health nursing activity in one city health department and ten rural health units.

In addition to the foregoing, consultant and advisory services with a view to data processing have been provided to:

1. The Division of Medical Services in relation to a program for the evaluation of performance by student laboratory technicians during their field experience under the supervision of the Laboratory and X-Ray School;

2. The Division of Vital Statistics in relation to the preparation of punch cards on births, marriages and deaths for the Dominion Bureau of Statistics;
3. The Barons-Eureka Health Unit in relation to the evaluation of alternative methods for the use of immune serum globulin in the prevention of infectious hepatitis;
4. The Sturgeon Health Unit in relation to a proposed study of farm accidents.

The Division has become deeply involved in a study of the health effects of air pollution which is being conducted jointly by the Alberta Department of Health and the Department of Community Medicine at the University of Alberta. Also participating in the study are the Division of Environmental Health Services and the Division of Industrial Health Services. The research consists of a series of studies covering:

1. Variations in mortality from lung cancer and other respiratory diseases;
2. Morbidity from respiratory disease in selected communities, controlled for residential history, occupational history and smoking habits, using the British MRC questionnaire and spirometric measurements;
3. Levels of suspended particulate matter in air at selected sites;
4. Polycyclic hydrocarbon and asbestiform fibre content of suspended particulate matter;
5. Public attitudes and perception of air pollution.

The aim of this project, which is supported by a National Health Grant, is to determine whether air pollution has yet become a hazard to health in Alberta. The research will indicate the degree of urgency for preventive action, and will provide a baseline for the measurement of future trends.

The Division is also collaborating with the Division of Medical Services in a study of congenital reduction deformities of the limbs. This project was prompted by the observation of an apparent increase in the incidence of reduction deformities among newborn infants in Alberta during the early months of 1969, and is being supported by a National Health Grant.

The staff of the Division remains at five, and consists of a director, a nurse-epidemiologist, a health statistician, a secretary and a key-punch operator. In anticipation of an impending increase in work load, however, the recruitment of a second key-punch operator has been approved.

For the fieldwork in connection with the study of the health effects of air pollution, the staff has been temporarily augmented by a full-time public health nurse and a number of part-time interviewers whose salaries and travel expenses are paid from research project funds.

APPROPRIATION 2410

Division of Alcoholism

J. P. Matheson, B.A., B.S.W., C.A.S.W. - Director

Through its outpatient clinics in Edmonton, Calgary and Red Deer, and its inpatient centre Henwood, the Division of Alcoholism provides a broad range of treatment facilities which are also geared to provide practical training and demonstration in methods of treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics, for people in the helping professions.

Treatment, Community Services, Court and Corrections, and Research are the four major areas of the Division's effort to control alcoholism, a major public health problem in Alberta as it is in other parts of Canada, the United States, and many other countries.

Treatment

Specific services to patients at all clinics involve medical attention, individual counselling for patients and their families, group therapy at several different levels for patients and spouses, and day centre activities for single, homeless, unemployed male or female alcoholics.

Edmonton and Red Deer caseloads increased in 1969 while the Calgary treatment centre has experienced a normal demand for services. Counsellors at all three major clinics also are deeply involved in training programs.

Family counselling, involving patient and spouse at the same interview, has become an increasingly preferred method of treatment at the Calgary Clinic.

Continued in-service training has been provided for staff during the year. Three psychiatrists, one in Calgary and two in Edmonton, have been appointed consultants to the Division.

Referrals to Henwood during the year came from two primary sources, the Edmonton outpatient clinic and the Alberta Hospital, but this new facility has also achieved recognition and accreditation from the Saskatchewan Commission on Alcoholism, British Columbia, Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

Education and Community Services

One of the most effective programs conducted is a Community Services Training Course at Henwood. Begun in September, 1968, the course trained 119 people from 34 different communities during 1969. These included two in the Northwest Territories and one in British Columbia. Graduates represented a wide variety of professional backgrounds such as doctors, nurses, community health workers, social workers, probation officers, clergymen and native people.

A paper describing the aims, objectives and training techniques of this unique course was presented at the annual conference of the North American Association of Alcohol Programs held in Vancouver in September.

During the latter part of the year the Division participated in a band council training course for native communities offered by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. A half day of alcoholism education was the Division's contribution to six of these three-day courses.

Several Alberta communities are developing local programs to deal with their own alcoholism problems. With the assistance and consultation of Division staff in Edmonton and Calgary, these programs have made excellent progress in the past year.

Training for medical and paramedical professions was expanded to include all schools of nursing in Calgary, Edmonton and Red Deer. In-service training sessions were held at a number of hospitals for graduate nursing staffs. Nursing aide and orderly training schools, conducted by the provincial government, were visited and lectures presented.

Medical students from the University of Alberta make regular field trips to Henwood and interns from Calgary General Hospital spend two mornings at the Calgary Clinic during their psychiatric training.

Several new industrial programs are in the process of development in southern Alberta. City of Calgary, Canadian Forces Base and the Crowsnest Pass area industries are involved in this type of programming.

Court and Correction Services

An increase in staff made it possible to extend this service to the Calgary Provincial Gaol in August. Two counsellors are now assigned to Calgary gaol and three are serving Belmont Institute.

Research Services

A completely new record system for control and data will significantly improve the compilation of statistics, assessment of staff effectiveness, and followup of patient populations. Court referral data, complete with interpretive material, were compiled and a research report issued in August. A bibliography on the "Drinking Driver" was assembled for publication and will be distributed early in 1970.

An audio-visual film on autokinetic phenomenon and alcoholism was completed and will be distributed in early spring. Two symposia covering recent research was presented and the first volume of the monograph entitled "Perception and Alcoholism" was published.

Following are comparative statistics on caseloads, counselling interviews, medical treatment, and group therapy activities at the three outpatient clinics, Henwood inpatient centre, Belmont Institute and Calgary Provincial Gaol;

Patients - 1969

All Outpatient Clinics

Edmonton
Calgary
Red Deer

New Patients			Returned Patients			Both Categories		
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
597	145	742	832	138	970	1429	283	1712
416	106	522	686	110	796	1102	216	1318
147	32	179	122	27	149	269	59	328
34	7	41	24	1	25	58	8	66

Relatives & Others 1969

All Outpatient Clinics

Edmonton
Calgary
Red Deer

New			Returned			Both Categories		
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
103	543	646	10	204	214	113	747	860
61	302	363	5	112	117	66	414	480
36	211	247	5	66	71	41	277	318
6	30	36	-	26	26	6	56	62

Counselling Interviews 1969

All Outpatient Clinics

Edmonton
Calgary
Red Deer

Individual			Joint			Family		
Patients	Relatives & Others	Total	Patients	Relatives & Others	Total	Patients	Relatives & Others	Total
6735	1633	8368	103	36	139	347	37	384
3918	689	4607	74	21	95	169	11	180
2394	687	3081	22	15	37	149	9	158
423	257	680	7	-	7	29	17	46

Medical Treatment 1969

Edmonton & Calgary
Clinics
Edmonton
Calgary

Doctor/Patient	Nurse/Patient	Total
538	4761	5299
383	3546	3929
155	1215	1370

Group Therapy 1969

All Outpatient Clinics

Edmonton
Calgary
Red Deer

Individual Participants			Sessions
Patients	Relatives & Others	Total	Total Number
1447	701	2148	605
1200	528	1728	480
188	165	353	103
59	8	67	22

Belmont Institute 1969

Male Patients	Individual Counselling Interviews	Group Therapy	
Total		Participants	Sessions
223	931	781	623

Calgary Gaol August 1 to December 31 1969

Male Patients	Individual Counselling Interviews	Group Therapy	
Total		Participants	Sessions
75	407	144	71

Henwood Inpatient Centre 1969

Caseload

Patients
Relatives & Others

Male	Female	Total
214	48	262
33	51	84

Counselling Interviews

Individual			Joint			Family		
Patients	Relatives & Others	Total	Patients	Relatives & Others	Total	Patients	Relatives & Others	Total
5245	89	5334	86	-	86	62	-	62

Medical Treatment

Doctor/Patient	Nurse/Patient	Total
1167	1305	2472

Group Therapy

Individual Participants			Sessions
Patients	Relatives & Others	Total	Total Number
680	53	733	2811

APPROPRIATIONS 2414-2418

Division of Local Health Services

W. Watt, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. - Director

This Division of the Department of Health is primarily concerned with the administration and functions of the local Boards of Health. It acts in an advisory capacity to all local Boards of Health, and is the agency of the Department for the payment of fiscal grants to Health Units and City Health Departments and to the Municipal Nursing Service. The professional members of the Division serve as consultants to Medical Officers of Health and the Municipal Nursing Service throughout the Province. Local Health Services is composed of the following branches: (1) Communicable Disease; (2) Health Units; (3) Public Health Nursing, including Maternal and Child Health; (4) Dental Health; (5) Health Education and Nutrition Services.

Communicable Diseases - (App'n 2414)

The purpose of this branch or service is to collect, record, and transmit information and statistics concerning the morbidity and mortality of communicable diseases, advise local Health Authorities on matters relating to the prevention and control of communicable diseases, interpret and distribute the communicable disease regulations, inform local health authorities of bacteriological, virological, and serological reports from the laboratories, and provide and distribute vaccines and biologicals required for the Provincial immunization program.

The service provides and distributes to local Health Authorities a large number of vaccines and biological products, so that immunization is available free to the residents of the Province for such diseases as Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Measles, Poliomyelitis, Rabies, Smallpox, and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, while sera and antitoxins are also made available, under special circumstances, for such conditions as Rabies, Gas Gangrene, Botulism, Infectious Hepatitis and Rubella. The cost of the materials for this free immunization service approximates \$300,000.00.

In 1969 no cases of Paralytic Poliomyelitis and Typhoid Fever were reported, and again as in 1968, a great reduction in Measles morbidity was experienced, indicating the effectiveness of the Provincial Measles Immunization Program. Concern is indicated, however, over increased prevalence of Salmonella and Dysentery infections and Infectious Hepatitis, and the persistence of pockets or areas of Diphtheria infections, in spite of the emphasis placed upon, and the availability of, Diphtheria immunization. Greater efforts will have to be concentrated on these diseases by the Department of Health and local Health Units in the hope of achieving better control.

Number of Cases or Communicable Diseases Reported

<u>Disease</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969 (Preliminary)</u>
Brucellosis	-	3	-
Diarrhoea of the Newborn	2	4	6
Diphtheria:			
(a) Cases	9	15	23
(b) Carriers	335	37	124
Dysentery:			
(a) Amoebiasis Cases	1	1	1
(b) Amoebiasis Carriers	-	-	1
(c) Bacillary	165	325	368*
(d) Unspecified	2	7	-
Encephalitis, infectious	6	3	-
Food Poisoning:			
(a) Salmonella infections	161	165	220
(b) Staphylococcus intoxication	3	50	15
(c) Unspecified	-	4	-
Hepatitis, infectious	860	1129	1437
Hepatitis, serum			2**
Leprosy	-	1	-
Malaria	1	-	1
Measles	3008	594	437
Meningitis, viral or aseptic:			
(a) Due to poliovirus	1	-	-
(b) Due to Coxsackie virus	1	-	-
(c) Due to ECHO virus	1	1	-
(d) Other and Unspecified	12	7	7
Meningococcal infections	8	9	16
Pertussis	492	220	35
Poliomyelitis, paralytic	1	-	-
Psittacosis	-	1	2
Puerperal pyrexia	1	1	-
Q Fever	1	-	-
Rubella	523	735	1232
Scarlet Fever and Streptococcal Sore Throat	1700	2143	1001
Tuberculosis:			
(a) Pulmonary	269	212	291
(b) Other and unspecified	67	75	52
Typhoid Fever	13	-	-

*No breakdown as in previous years.

**New breakdown for 1969

Health Units

<u>Name of Health Unit</u>	<u>Headquarters</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Number of Personnel*</u>
Jasper	Jasper	2,878	4
Banff	Banff	3,572	8
County of Warner	Raymond	8,474	7
Chief Mountain	Cardston	8,850	6
Big Country	Hanna	14,136	10
Foothills	High River	21,059	10
Athabasca	Athabasca	21,955	15
Chinook	Fort Macleod	22,234	12
Edson	Edson	22,578	18
Stony Plain-Lac Ste. Anne	Stony Plain	24,421	15
Barons-Eureka	Coaldale	26,365	15
Drumheller	Drumheller	27,785	14
Minburn-Vermilion	Vermilion	28,283	15
Vegreville	Vegreville	28,612	18
Wetoka	Wetaskiwin	29,984	14
Mount View	Calgary	30,326	16
Grande Prairie	Grande Prairie	36,950	24
Leduc-Strathcona	Edmonton	37,184	18
Peace River	Peace River	37,503	23
North Eastern Alberta	St. Paul	37,509	19
City of Lethbridge	Lethbridge	38,749	15
Medicine Hat	Medicine Hat	49,378	24
Alberta East Central	Stettler	51,307	17
Sturgeon	St. Albert	55,549	23
Red Deer	Red Deer	69,578	26
City of Calgary	Calgary	369,025	142
City of Edmonton	Edmonton	410,105	164

*Including part-time service

Health Units - (App'n 2415)

The purpose of this branch is to provide the local Health Units in the Province with financial assistance and consulting services relating to personnel, recruitment policies and procedures and general administration under the authority of The Health Unit Act. The branch ensures that Health Unit services include the prevention and control of communicable diseases, the administration and distribution of vaccines, public health inspection programs, school health services, and assists in many other programs that the local Health Unit may introduce. Total financial grants from the Province to Health Units and City Health Departments in 1969 will approximate \$2,200,000.00.

Public Health Nursing - (App'n 2416)

Highlights of Public Health Nursing Service

The Report of the Study of Public Health Nursing Activities in Alberta was published. A summary of the report was presented at the Canadian Public Health Association (Alberta Division) Convention and will be published later in the Canadian Public Health Journal.

Workshops on child health programs were conducted for public health nurses in all areas of the Province.

A week's inservice educational course for public health nursing supervisors was held in Edmonton in October.

Twenty-eight bursaries have been awarded this year for post-graduate study in public health nursing.

<u>Public Health Nursing Personnel</u>	<u>Number</u>
Nurses employed in Health Units (25)	160
Nurses in Municipal Nursing Service	17
Nurses in City of Edmonton Health Department	90
Nurses in City of Calgary Health Department	86
Total	<u>353</u>
Average Nurse:Population Ratio	1:4,668

Municipal Nursing Service

The stations presently operating are:

1. Atikameg-Gift Lake
2. Blueberry Mountain
3. Bonanza
4. Calling Lake (half time)
5. Fort McMurray (2 nurses; 1 clerk)
6. High Level-Fort Vermilion (3 nurses)
7. Kinuso
8. La Crete (2 nurses)
9. Smith
10. Wabasca (2 nurses)
11. Wanham (half time)
12. Worsley

The Fort Assiniboine Municipal Nursing Service was closed June 30, 1969. This area is now served by the Sturgeon Health Unit. The Blueberry Mountain Municipal Nursing Service will be closed March 31, 1970. The new town of Rainbow Lake will begin to receive service from the High Level staff shortly.

A total of 18,398 patients received minor or emergency treatment service. 1,648 patients were referred to medical care. 480 accidents were attended by the municipal nurses. Total population served - 25,000.

Summary of Cost of Municipal Nursing Service

Total cost of Municipal Nursing Service (approx.)	\$173,616
Total cost of drugs and supplies	\$ 20,028
Total amount of fees collected	\$ 13,916
Total payment to Department of Health by Department of National Health and Welfare for nursing service in four areas	\$ 14,760

Dental Health Services - (App'n 2417)

Preventive educational programs were undertaken by 19 Health Units and the Cities of Edmonton and Calgary. The staff consisted of nine full-time dental officers (five with D.D.P.H. training), 11 part-time dental officers and 34 dental auxiliary/hygienists. *

The programs, undertaken in preschool and elementary grades, consisted of inspections, counselling with parents, topical fluoride applications, and referrals to family dentists for treatment. The high school students received inspections, referrals and counselling.

Twelve Dental Auxiliary Bursary Program students were recruited to graduate May 1971. Thirteen Dental Auxiliaries will graduate May 1970. Five third-year dental students were utilized for summer programs. Dental Health Seminars, under Project 608-13-17, proved most successful.

Under the Oral Fluoride Program 25,000 bottles of oral fluorides were distributed to health agencies in Alberta during 1969. 135,000 bottles of oral fluorides were shipped since 1966 at a cost of \$23,000.00.

Seventeen Volunteer Dentist Programs were undertaken in rural areas at a cost of \$1,000.00 to the department (mileage and freight). The program consisted of 134 operating days equalling 1206 operating hours at an average of 20 patients per day.

One additional set of transportable dental equipment was purchased for \$2,600.00 for the Volunteer Dentist Program.

511,353 Albertans are receiving benefits of communal fluoridation in 33 communities.

Public Health Education (App'n 2418)

A program on venereal diseases was initiated to reach and inform the hard-to-reach groups, which are felt to be a concern to control infections. Work began late in the fall of 1967 on a planned program and aids for community, staff, and individual use in venereal

diseases education. By the early part of 1969, the filmstrip "The Story of Venereal Diseases" had been used and tested in presentations, two publications of the same title were printed, and a special mailing box was prepared. The story to be told is a simple one, and designed to attain a primary objective - "the control and prevention of venereal diseases" - where one contracts VD; how to avoid VD; the treatment of VD.

The Provincial poison control program continued to operate for the second year, based on the method of mass media, consisting of four specially prepared eight-second TV clips, two pamphlets, and eight portable exhibits. Based on a six-month release of the TV clips, which blanket the entire Province, approximately fifty showings will be viewed by the entire population informing parents of preschoolers on the dangers of poisonings.

The Director has worked closely with the Department of Education in curriculum planning for family life education and pollution control, which will take in noise prevention. During the year, meetings were held in conjunction with sub-committee members of the Alberta Advisory Committee on Pollution Control to work on an educational grid which could be used as a basis for a planned educational approach by the Department of Education in Alberta.

The Director served on a planning committee which was formed at the CPHA by the Health Education Section and the Canadian Health Education Specialists Society which met in Halifax this year. They are to formulate a basis for a Canadian Health Education Conference. The committee of four are from New Brunswick, Manitoba, Alberta, and Michigan.

Nutrition Services - (App'n 2418)

This past year Nutrition Services again provided a consultant and educational service to both professional and lay groups. The number of requests for assistance has continued to increase, but the limited staff of one nutritionist and one clerk-typist precludes the extension of the basic program which is carried out from year to year. Examples of some of the more time consuming activities are listed below.

- Visits to the dietary departments in four Provincial hospitals to assist personnel and assess the departments. Following these, written reports were submitted to the Director of the Mental Health Division.

- The planning and directing of a five-day upgrading course for 32 senior dietary personnel from 28 small institutions. Thirty-two different mimeographed materials were prepared for use in the course.

- The preparation of six issues of the mimeographed release "Nutritionally Speaking" for distribution to public health personnel, industrial nurses, home economics and health teachers.

- The interpretation of 88 therapeutic diets prescribed by physicians and replies to over 300 requests for general nutrition information.

APPROPRIATION 2422

Division of Social Hygiene

P. L. Rentiers, M.D. - Director

The following statistical tables indicate that there was little change in the incidence of venereal diseases in Alberta during 1969. Tentatively 133 cases of syphilis were reported of which 88 were in the early infectious phases of the disease as compared to a total of 119 in 1968, 90 of which were early infections. The tentative 1969 rate for syphilis all types will be about 8.7 per 100,000 population and that for early infectious syphilis 5.7. Of the 133 cases reported 14 were in the 15 - 19 years age bracket and with two exceptions (one Negress of Canadian birth and one male immigrant from Iran) were of Indian or Metis origin.

During 1969 there was concern about the incidence of syphilis on three Indian Reservations and one in particular. It is apparent, however, that in spite of dedicated effort on the part of all health and welfare workers control measures will accomplish little until such time as the Reserve inhabitants take steps to improve the physical and social aspects of their environment.

One congenital syphilis infection was reported in a 41 year old Canadian-born Caucasian woman.

Reported confirmed and unconfirmed gonorrhoeal infections totalled 6,060 in 1969, an increase of 374 over 1968. This is not considered to be a significant change.

Report Division of Social Hygiene

January 1 to December 31, 1969

	Edmonton Clinic Including Ft. Sask. Gaol	Calgary Clinic	Lethbridge Clinic	Mobile Clinic	Physicians in Province
Total No. of Patient Visits	19,247	17,407	539	-	-
Total No. of Serological Tests	18,939	10,595	478	1,107	-
Total No. of Smears for Gonococci	2,447	2,834	131	-	-
Total No. of Cultures for Gonococci	5,144	1,267	9	-	-
Total No. of Darkfield Examinations	147	56	9	-	-
Total No. C.S.F. Examinations	2	-	-	-	-
Total No. of Treatments Given	9,257	4,613	13	225	-
Amount Used of:					
Penicillin (aqueous)	Units 2,686,700,000	2,162,800,000	7,800,000	95,600,000	Vials 1,432
Bicillin 1200 L-A	Units 1,390,700,000	54,000,000	-	75	Syringes 381
Penicillin Tablets, Hylenta (5)	Tablets 1,980	740	61	102	4,418
Penicillin Tablets, Hylenta (10)	-	-	-	240	298
Terramycin capsules, 250 mgm	284	1,452	80	108	242
Ampicin capsules, 500 mgm	828	-	-	-	1,254
Ampicin capsules, 250 mgm	106	-	-	-	367
Benemid tablets, 500 mgm	7,091	7,115	-	-	-
Syntetrex, IM, 350 mgm per vial	198	208	-	-	-
Tetracaps, 250 mgm	2,807	3,347	460	16	3,071
Declomycin capsules, 300 mgm	-	-	-	-	40
Novotetrex capsules, 250 mgm	300	-	-	-	2,138
Aureomycin capsules, 250 mgm	3,972	1,841	382	-	742
Achromycin capsules, 250 mgm	-	-	-	-	96
Erythrocin tablets, 250 mgm	609	241	66	-	126
Terramycin IM, 10 ml per vial	6	-	-	-	1
Chlor-Tripolon tablets, 8 mg	132	-	-	-	-

Report Division of Social Hygiene (Con't)

January 1 to December 31, 1969

	Edmonton Clinic Including Ft. Sask. Gaol	Calgary Clinic	Lethbridge Clinic	Mobile Clinic	Physicians in Province
Ceporan, 1 gram vials IM	32	4	-	-	10
Benadryl capsules, 25 mg	-	26	-	-	-
Sulfathiazole tablets 7½ grains	-	38	-	-	-
Decadron 1 cc vials IM	-	4	-	-	-
Total No. New V.D.G. Infections (All Forms)	2,320	1,216	62	75	(Confirmed) 1,415 (Unconfirmed) 972
Total No. New Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	1
Total No. New V.D.S. Infections	30	18	-	19	64
	Primary..... 7	Primary..... 9		Secondary... 14	Congenital..... 1
	Secondary..... 8	Secondary..... 2			Primary..... 26
	Early-Latent... 9				Secondary..... 22
	Late-Latent... 3	Late-Latent... 6		Type Undet... 5	Early-Latent... 2
	Type Undet..... 3	Type Undet.... 1			Late-Latent... 9
					Tert. (Other)... 1
					Type Undet..... 3
Total No. of New Admissions	2,040	1,746	118	-	1,694
Total No. of Alleged Sources of Infection Reported with Sufficient Information for Investigation	2,320	1,735	187	871	-
Total Number of Above Cases Completed	2,174	1,664	110	652	-

Report Division of Social Hygiene
January 1 to December 31, 1969

	Lethbridge Gaol	Spy Hill Gaol
Total Number of Prisoners Admitted	3,146	7,100 (Including Remands)
Total Number Serological Tests for Syphilis	19	2,522
Total Number of New V.D.S. Infections	Early-Latent.... 1 Type Undet..... 1 2	-
Total Number New V.D.G. Infections (All Forms)		6,060
Total Number New Ophthalmia Neonatorum		1
Total Number New V.D.S. Infections		133
		Congenital 1 Primary 42 Secondary 46 Early-Latent 11 Late-Latent 19 Tert. (Other) 1 Type Undet 13

APPROPRIATION 2425

Division of Environmental Health Services

H. L. Hogge, B.Sc., P.Eng. - Director

The 1969 work of this Division has continued in the programs for the control of air and water pollution, the supervision of municipal waterworks and sewerage systems and swimming pools, the inspection of plumbing installations, and specialized areas of public health inspection. The Division is organized into six basic operating sections and each encountered increased work load, both as to volume and diversity.

The staff of the Division participated in the work of a number of regular and 'ad hoc' Provincial Government committees during the year including the Solid Wastes Disposal Study Committee, the Alberta Advisory Committee on Pollution Control, the Conservation and Utilization Committee, the Aquatic Plant Control Committee, and the Inter-departmental Committee on Pesticides.

The staff of the Division numbers 59 and the operating expenses for the year are in the order of \$660,000.00. The work accomplished by the Division during 1969 is briefly outlined section by section as follows:

Municipal Engineering

During 1969 the Municipal Engineering Section processed 277 submissions for approval of water and sewerage projects, (227 of which were for 'Final Approval' at an estimated cost of \$30,090,094.00) which includes the approvals of new systems in three communities. The total number of communities with water and/or sewerage systems is 278. In addition, there were one public and 11 semi-public swimming pools recommended and approved for construction.

There were 415 water and sewerage inspections conducted in 161 communities (58% of the total with water and sewerage), and 53 inspections of swimming pools. Publication of "The Utility Operator" continued in 1969 with four volumes being distributed. This bulletin continues to receive very favorable comment from people associated with water works, sewage treatment and swimming pools.

Fluoridation of public water supplies continued to increase with four additional communities commencing fluoridation during the year. The monthly reports for the 34 communities now fluoridating their water supplies are checked to ensure the required fluoride residuals are maintained.

The control program for the corrosiveness of chemically treated water produced by the various communities was continued, with 16 communities being surveyed.

A Second Year Water and Sewage Operators' School was conducted, at which there were 105 men in attendance.

Classification of the various water and sewerage systems, and certification of the operators of these systems were basically completed in 1969 and will be finalized in 1970.

An engineer from this Section is in attendance at the Calgary Office and the southern part of the Province during the first full week of every month. This arrangement has greatly increased the service to, and co-operation with, this area.

An experiment, in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture, was conducted whereby calves were watered entirely on 'primary' sewage effluent. The results indicated that the calves would drink the settled sewage without sickness and with satisfactory weight gain.

Air Pollution Control

The work of the Air Pollution Control Section basically was a continuation of programs that have been developed over the past few years. There was a slight increase in volume of work without any increases in staff.

In 1969, the Air Pollution Control Section processed 89 approvals for new or expanding plants, an increase of close to 9% over 1968. There were 115 incinerator installations approved as well.

Pollution levels were continued to be monitored in the vicinity of industrial operations and in urban areas. Mobile laboratory surveys were carried out at 32 locations and the number of exposure cylinder stations for total sulfation and hydrogen sulfide were increased by 14, bringing the totals to 176 and 172 stations respectively. Hydrogen sulfide, total sulfation, dustfall, smoke, suspended particulate matter, oxidant and oxides of nitrogen were monitored on a continuous basis in Edmonton and Calgary. Besides these, total hydrocarbons were monitored in Edmonton.

A 35% increase in the number of source surveys was achieved in 1969 over 1968 bringing the total number of surveys to 39. Vegetation sampling was also continued, but at a somewhat decreased rate.

A total of 191 complaints were received with the majority of these pertaining to odors at times of critical meteorological conditions. Where complaints were verified, corrective measures were applied.

Various talks were given on air pollution to groups, and conferences and courses were attended by section staff members. Also, 197 requests for information on air pollution were received, mostly from school aged children.

Water Pollution Control

The Water Pollution Control Section expanded its activities in 1969. The Section was involved in several committees pertaining to water pollution control, including the Aquatic Plant Control Committee, which prepared the publication "The Control of Aquatic Plants in Alberta". In conjunction with the "Alberta Advisory Committee on Water Quality Criteria", the publication "Summary Surface Water Quality Criteria - Province of Alberta" was also published in 1969. Modification of the Regulations Respecting Water and Ice were drafted and approved for consideration by the Provincial Board of Health.

The major river systems in Alberta were sampled on the following frequencies: Athabasca River - once each month; Bow River - once a month; North Saskatchewan River - twice a month; Peace River - once a year; South Saskatchewan River - once a month. Waste waters associated with these river systems were sampled in conjunction with the river surveys. The total number of samples obtained during 1969 was 1116, including 451 river samples, 201 industrial samples, 122 municipal waste samples, six lake samples, and four activated carbon adsorption samples. The remaining 332 samples were taken during complaint investigations and special studies. Special studies included the effect of snow removal operation on the North Saskatchewan and Bow Rivers, and determination of levels of pesticides and heavy metals, such as mercury and lead in the major rivers in Alberta.

The Water Pollution Control Section acquired three Dissolved Oxygen Analyzers to continuously monitor dissolved oxygen and temperature at select river locations. One is presently in operation at Lindbergh, Alberta. The "RM-25 Robot Monitor" was in operation near the Vinca Bridge location during 1969. A second Robot Monitor has been purchased and should be operational by the winter of 1970.

During 1969, twenty water pollution control approvals were issued for waste water control, 19 approvals for the application of chemicals for aquatic weed control, and six approvals for the application of chemicals for insect control were also issued.

Environmental Health Services Laboratory

The laboratory continued the performance of the analytical work in conjunction with the water and air pollution control programs in 1969 as in the previous year, but additionally it was in the position to extend the work on detection of air and water pollutants, specifically of those being of an organic chemical nature. This was achieved by the acquisition of further modern and complex instruments as well as by the expansion of working space and staff. Thus, the work of analyzing for chlorinated pesticides and herbicides in water could be extended, and a program of analyzing for organo-phosphorous pesticides could be introduced. Emphasis has been placed on the detection of odorous air pollutants, a type of analysis which is still under investigation.

A considerable amount of analytical work was carried out with reference to specific water pollution cases for the Water Pollution Control Section of the Division, and for the Fish and Wildlife Division of the Department of Lands and Forests.

Without taking into consideration research work performed in order to set up new workable analytical methods and procedures, the following data represent a general impression of the activities in the year 1969: An overall total of 6,062 samples were received and 21,574 individual tests performed on them. They show an increase of five percent of samples and 27 percent of tests over the year 1968. These data indicate that in 1969 the number of individual tests per sample increased significantly which is a clear tendency towards the demand for more detailed analysis. Specifically, in the field of pesticides and herbicides this trend could be observed.

Public Health Inspection

The Public Health Inspection Section was involved in a quite varied program throughout 1969.

During the month of January the Public Health Inspection Section directed an In-Service Training Course for public health inspectors employed by Health Units and City Health Departments. This Course was well received and has been useful to the inspectors who attended.

The Provincial Public Health Inspectors made several inspections and gave advice to local health authorities to assist in the upgrading of waste disposal grounds. There has been a considerable increase in activity in this area resulting from changes in regulations.

The Public Health Inspection Section was also active in the field of food control. A study of the soft ice cream distribution industry, commenced in 1968, was continued during the summer of 1969. From the information which has been accumulated it appears that there are problems of some significance connected with the transportation of mix and the handling of mix on retail premises.

Complaints have been received concerning the way in which perishable foods have been received after transportation over long distances by truck. A survey to obtain basic information was commenced in the latter part of the year. This survey revealed possible weak points. It will be followed up in 1970 with more specific investigations to determine the significance of some conditions which have been noted and to prepare recommendations for remedial action if necessary.

Much of the time of one Provincial public health inspector was used in the administering of the Regulations Respecting Bedding and Upholstered and Stuffed Articles. These regulations came into effect in 1969. They require manufacturers and renovators of upholstered articles to register their premises and to label articles in accordance with the material used.

Other activities of the Section included a number of inspections of feedlots and piggeries reflecting the increase in the number of these operations in various parts of the Province. A check was made on a lake used for recreational swimming which revealed that the water in the lake was not affected bacterially in any material way by the size of the swimming load. The staff of the Section made many other public health inspections and co-operated with the Air and Water Pollution Control Sections in some of their activities.

Plumbing Inspection

During the year 1969 the Plumbing Section issued 2,296 plumbing permits and 168 private sewage disposal system permits. The revenue received was \$29,976.36. This is an increase of \$12,910.71 over the previous year or the equivalent of a 75.6 percent increase. The number of plumbing permits issued during 1969 was an increase of 39.5 percent over 1968. The indication is that we inspected installations which contained a greater number of fixtures than the minimum, therefore the difference in increase between permits issued and revenue received.

Our inspectors are now providing inspection for 161 urban municipalities. This is an increase of three over 1968. The Medical Officers attending the Health Unit Conference unanimously passed a resolution requesting that all towns, villages and hamlets be required to employ competent plumbing inspectors or have our Section provide the inspection service. If this resolution is acted upon, it will certainly improve the calibre of inspections in urban municipalities. The work load increase resulting from the implementation of this resolution would require an increase of approximately four inspectors.

The Provincial Plumbing and Drainage Regulations were revised in certain areas in December of this year. The revisions should result in a more practical approach to plumbing installation requirements. The amendments mainly dealt with the installation of plumbing in relocateable type buildings. This particular industry is rapidly developing and will soon be responsible for a great percentage of our dwelling units throughout the Province.

Each district office, as well as our Edmonton office, has experienced an increase in the number of visits from the public seeking information and guidance in the construction of a plumbing system to serve their dwelling.

APPROPRIATION 2428

Division of Industrial Health Services

C. R. May, L.M.S.S.A.(Lond), D.I.H.(Lond), C.Rad.P., F.R.S.H. - Director

General

It is with deep regret that the death early in 1969 of Doctor Herman Siemens, the first Director of the Division, is recorded. There can be no doubt that without his imagination, anticipation and foresight the Division would not have made the contributions to health improvement among the industrial population which has been recorded since 1963.

There has been an overall increase in the type, range and number of activities during the year. This is due to the fact that 1969 is the first period over which there has been a full complement of staff. All staff are fully occupied and no further increase in the activities can take place without some additional graduate and technical help. This applies particularly to the Radiation Protection Services which must now take on inspection services for some 300 Microwave ovens which have been installed in the Province and a large number of potentially hazardous Laser equipment and apparatus. In-plant health services require consultation services and there is an urgent need for a trained, qualified and experienced Occupational Health Nurse Consultant to do this. Occupational Health Nurse training facilities do not exist anywhere in Western Canada. It is hoped to remedy this in 1970.

The increase in activity has confirmed the fact that management, labour, medical and nursing staff require considerable orientation in terms of preventive programmes to cover the many health problems which exist within industry. Instruction in basic Industrial Hygiene has been started and two courses are currently being run at the Universities of Alberta and Calgary through the Department of Extension Studies. The instructors for these courses are the staff of the Division. These courses are the first of their kind in Western Canada. It is hoped to extend this type of educational programme to cope with the requirements of other health groups (physicians, nurses, etc.) during 1970.

Senior Personnel of the Division are becoming more and more involved with meetings and Committees and there has been an increasing demand on their time to address industrial and technical groups on matters relating to occupational health. This is encouraging in that it indicates a slow but increasing awareness of the existence of health problems within the Province.

Committee meetings attended	51
Lectures and talks presented	53
Radiation Protection lectures	24
Papers contributed	7

Industrial Health Services Laboratory

Requests for services have increased over the year, mainly in relation to Noise problems. There have been fewer requests for small surveys relating to specific problems

and the pattern has changed in that there have been more requests for detailed studies of a whole plant or an industrial complex. The proposed investigation of dust problems in the newly developed mining sites has been delayed by lack of facilities to set up, standardize and check out the equipment to be used. It is hoped that this can be commenced sometime in the early part of 1970. It is particularly important that this should be done since there is no background information on mining in Alberta and there is shortly to be a change in the methods of dust evaluation in the mining industry throughout the world. The Division's instrumentation is of the new type and there is thus some advantage in carrying out the surveys using the new systems from the outset.

The chemical section of the laboratory has continued to develop new methods and modify analytical and sampling techniques. Examples of this are development of a paper chromatographic technique for determination of hippuric acid in the urine of workers exposed to toluene, spectrophotometric screening for urinary delta aminolaevulinic acid in lead workers and assay of blood cholinesterases in workers exposed to organophosphorus insecticides.

Tests Carried Out On Site Or In The Laboratory

Air Samples (gases, fumes, vapours, etc.).....	182
Air Samples (gravimetric dust evaluation).....	70
Air Samples (dust counts).....	33
Blood Specimens analysed (lead, carboxyhaemoglobin, cholinesterase, etc.).....	472
Urine Specimens analysed (lead, mercury, pentachlorophenol, coproporphyrin, etc.)..	715
Miscellaneous analyses (adhesives, cerebrospinal fluid, eggs, solvents, etc.).....	<u>52</u>
Total.....	<u>1524</u>

Investigations Carried Out

Plant and locations visited.....	72
Noise surveys.....	42
Visits and inspections where no tests required.....	<u>75</u>
Total.....	<u>189</u>

Pesticide Applicator Licencing

This requires a detailed investigation into the training, experience and known competence of the applicants. The licenses issued were:

Aerial Applicators (Class B).....	36
Agricultural (Seed Cleaning Plant) Class B.....	60
Municipal (Class A/B - 50; Class B - 33).....	83
Commercial (Exterminators, etc.) Class A/B - 12; Class B - 32.....	<u>44</u>
Total.....	<u>223</u>

New Licences issued - 45; Renewals - 178

Radiological Protection

Radioactive Materials: There were 135 licensed users of radioactive materials in the Province at the end of 1969 (Industry - 69; Research - 47; Medicine - 14). 196 field inspections were made in connection with the Atomic Energy Control Regulations.

X-ray Equipment: The survey of X-ray equipment on request was continued during 1969. 172 installations were inspected (medical, dental, veterinary, hospital and chiropractic). 1278 recommendations were made for the 319 X-ray machines examined.

Other Work: 1. Investigation of suspected radiation exposures of 90r of a research worker and 100r of an industrial radiographer were carried out.

2. Investigation of the thefts of two radioactive sources from industrial radiographic units.

3. Investigations following incidents and subsequent suspension of three radioisotope licenses for violation of the A.E.C. Regulations.

4. Organization of seminars on "Accident Prevention in Industrial Radiography", - in conjunction with the Workmen's Compensation Board.

5. Investigation into Radon Gas concentrations in a coal mine.

6. Survey of Microwave ovens.

7. Lectures on Radiation Protection to various bodies.

Chest Survey Unit

In the absence of any other agency carrying out this work, the unit continued with its activities in relation to Division 25 (Protection of Persons from Fibrosis of the Lungs).

Companies visited.....	36
X-rays taken.....	1165
Pulmonary Function Tests.....	1150
Health evaluation questionnaires.....	1150

Despite the existence of Regulations requiring the tests, companies to whom the requirements apply are for the most part unco-operative in assisting with arrangements. In 1969 only 50% finally co-operated (80% of the total had to be written to a second time and 5% answered after a third communication). The results of the survey are now being tabulated and a report will be produced after analysis.

Legislation

An X-ray Protection Act has been drafted; Regulations covering Notification of Industrial Disease and Lasers have been proposed; changes in the requirements for Medical and Industrial Radiographic Technicians are being considered. As a result of changes in other legislation, the Licensing of Pesticide applicators will eventually be the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS 2409, 2430, 2431, 2433, 2436, 2437, 2441, 2442, & 2444

Division of Medical Services

C. L. Pearson, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H. - Director

Emergency Health Services - * (App'n 2124)

During 1969, the Emergency Health Services continued with their function of assisting the hospitals, municipalities, towns and cities in preparing plans and reviewing existing plans for Local or National Emergencies, should a disaster occur. There are now 96 hospitals with approved "Disaster Plans" and, during 1969, six hospitals had repeat Disaster Exercises. There has been continued prepositioning of emergency medical supplies on a reduced basis owing to austerity. However, the training and orientation of emergency staff and personnel has continued satisfactorily. The cost of this program for 1969, including salaries, operating and travelling expenses, was \$52,335.00.

Special Handicapped Children's Program - (App'ns 2441 & 2444)

During a recent twelve month period, the Multiple Handicapped Children's Unit at the Glenrose Hospital examined 753 cases, while the Juvenile Amputee Clinics at Edmonton and Calgary examined a total of 294 patients. Six children are under the thalidomide program. Total cost of these programs to November 30, 1969, amounted to \$26,148.14.

Registry for Handicapped Children and Adults - (App'n 2444)

Registrations under this program now total approximately 19,500 and new registrations continue at a rate of 200 per month through the co-operation of health units, C.N.I.B. and very special clinics and organizations. The cost of the program up to the period ending November 30, 1969, amounted to \$8,526.64.

Cystic Fibrosis Program - (App'n 2433)

Seventy-nine children were receiving these antibiotic drugs and pancreatic enzymes during the calendar year 1969, and the cost for eight months of the program amounted to \$5,700.70.

Diabetic Treatment Program - (App'n 2433)

During the period April 1, 1969, to November 30, 1969, the cost of this program amounted to \$16,840.20 and covered diabetic drugs supplied to 1,059 persons on the active list as follows - Tolbutamide 531 persons, Insulin 310 persons, Phenformin 143 persons and Chlorpropamide 75 persons.

Phenylketonuria Program - (App'n 2433)

The preparation for the treatment of this congenital defect was provided free of charge to ten patients during 1969, and the cost to November 30, 1969, amounted to \$774.80.

Rheumatic Fever Program - (App'n 2433)

During 1969, 1,650 persons received penicillin while 27 patients received triple sulpha at a total cost of \$4,790.00 for the first eight month period ending November 30, 1969.

Emergency Air Ambulance Service - (App'n 2430)

During the last calendar year, there were 116 flights transporting 117 patients consisting of 34 children and 83 adults. During the first nine months, 97 flights were made at a cost of \$27,741.64.

Poliomyelitis Treatment Program - (App'n 2430)

During the calendar year 1969, there was an increase of 65 patients, which brought the total registered up to 3,868 as of December 31, 1969. The cost of the program for the first nine months of the fiscal year amounted to \$27,211.59.

Treatment Services for Social Service Recipients - (App'n 2430)

Since the first of April, 1969, the average monthly number of Social Service Recipients amounted to 74,210. For the period April to December, 1969, payments were made for dental care of \$768,082.70, chiropractic services of \$42,202.80 and optometric services of \$96,554.64.

School for Nursing Aides - (App'n 2436)

The total number of graduates for the year 1969 amounted to 498 and it cost the Government in the neighbourhood of \$525.00 to train each nursing aide.

Registry for Nursing Aides - (App'n 2436)

As of December 31, 1969, a total of 8,320 nursing aides have been certified, which was an increase of 609 over the previous year.

Health Careers Recruitment Program - (App'n 2411 & 2436)

Talks relating to health careers were given to 7,246 students in Alberta during 1969. Career kits totalling 7,830 were distributed in high schools, and approximately 1,200 posters were disseminated. Expected cost of this program is to amount to about \$40,700.00.

Laboratory and X-Ray School - (App'n 2437)

During 1969, sixteen students completed the combined course and were posted to various rural hospitals for active duty in the technical medical field. It cost the Department of Health approximately \$2,400.00 to train each student.

Northern Alberta Health Services - (App'n 2431)

The Northern Alberta Health Service has an appropriation to pay for the travelling and subsistence expenses for medical specialists to work in remote areas. An ophthalmologist and an ophthalmic dispenser were transported to northern areas and performed ophthalmologic examinations and dispensed eye glasses as follows:

May 3 - 6, 1969	Wabasca-Desmarais	229 patients
June 7, 8 and 9, 1969	Trout Lake and Chipewyan Lakes	61 patients
December 15 and 16, 1969	Fort Chipewyan	203 patients

Total number of inspections made in 1969 was 507, while 220 water samples were lifted and 117 Swab tests were made in restaurants. Cost of this service up to December 31, 1969, amounted to \$12,517.38.

Cerebral Palsy Clinic - (App'n 2442)

During the calendar year ending December 31, 1969, the Calgary Cerebral Palsy Clinic had 370 active cases on file, with 40 of these being new cases. The daily load of cases for treatment has averaged 45 - 50, with a total of 250 out of 370 receiving treatment at some time during the year. The Physiotherapy Department has given 3,884 treatments, the Occupational Therapy Department 4,871 and Speech Therapy Department 912. Thirty-two children attended the school program here. There were 216 cases seen by the orthopaedic surgeon on staff and 141 seen by the paediatrician. There was an average of 18 children in attendance at the Cerebral Palsy Association's Training Centre (formerly called Day Care Centre). The cost of the program for nine months is \$73,774.85.

Poison Control Services - (App'n 2430)

The total number of accidental poisonings to the end of November, 1969, including deaths, were reported at 4,019. Of these, 1,884 were males and 2,135 were females. The deaths among the reported cases were 68 males and 39 females, making a total of 107 deaths. The cost of operating this service up to December 31, 1969, amounted to \$8,485.99.

Civil Service Nurse - (App'n 2409)

During the calendar year 1969, 3,921 office visits were received, 609 house calls were made, 114 Workmen's Compensation cases were processed and 366 certificates were issued. Cost of this service to December 31, 1969, was \$10,032.22.

*Costs under the Department of Municipal Affairs but program administered by this Department.

APPROPRIATION 2432

Alberta Health Plan Division

J. A. D. Paul, M.D., C.M. - Director

By authority of the Alberta Health Plan Act assented to April 11th, 1967, the Alberta Health Plan commenced July 1st, 1967.

Second Plan Year July 1st, 1968 to June 30th, 1969

Basic Health Services

Basic Health Services were defined as:

- (i) medical services provided by a physician,
- (ii) oral surgery provided by a dental surgeon,
- (iii) services provided by an optometrist in respect of the refraction of the eyes for the fitting of glasses,
- (iv) services and appliances provided by a podiatrist, and
- (v) services provided by an osteopathic practitioner, subject to the limitations and exclusions prescribed in the regulations.

<u>Enrolment</u>	<u>Average Contracts</u>	<u>Average Lives</u>
Total	160,259	387,953
Fully Subsidized, Welfare	45,447	76,149
Subsidized, Non-Welfare	81,359	227,391
Unsubsidized	33,453	84,413

<u>Premium Revenue</u>	*\$21,043,695.33
Paid by Subscribers	\$ 6,156,675.17
Paid by Government Subsidy	\$14,887,020.16
Welfare Contracts	\$ 4,744,687.24
Subsidized Contracts	\$10,142,332.92

Premium paid for Basic Health Services represents a per life revenue of \$54.24

Claims Expense

Claims expense for services to June 30th, 1969 (at December 31st, 1969 without allowance for presented and not paid or unpresented claims.)

Total paid \$18,551,737.34 represents a per life expense of \$47.82

Medical	\$18,023,638.98 or 97.15% of basic health services	\$46.46 per life.
Dental	18,375.77 or .10% of basic health services	.05 per life.
Optometric	396,516.00 or 2.14% of basic health services	1.02 per life.
Podiatry	105,477.40 or .57% of basic health services	.27 per life.
Osteopathy	7,729.19 or .04% of basic health services	.02 per life
	<u>\$18,551,737.34</u>	<u>\$47.82</u>

Option A - Hospital and Ambulance Services

<u>Enrolment</u>	<u>Average Contracts</u>	<u>Average Lives</u>
Total	<u>131,737</u>	<u>285,134</u>
Welfare	45,341	75,849
Unsubsidized	86,396	209,285

(Subsidy not provided for this
Option in Second Plan Year)

<u>Premium Revenue</u>		* \$5,406,090.00
Paid by Subscribers	\$3,851,868.00	
Paid by Government Subsidy	\$1,554,222.00	
(Welfare Contract Only)		

Premium paid for Option A represents a per life revenue of \$18.96

Claims Expense

Claims expense for services to June 30th, 1969 (at December 31st, 1969 without allowance for presented and not paid, or unrepresented claims.)

Total paid \$5,215,807.18 represents a per life expense of	<u>\$18.29</u>
Hospital \$4,952,546.46 or 94.95% of claims expense	\$17.37
Ambulance \$ 263,260.72 or 5.05% of claims expense	.92
<u>\$5,215,807.18</u>	<u>\$18.29</u>

Option B - Drugs and Prosthetic Appliances

<u>Enrolment</u>	<u>Average Contracts</u>	<u>Average Lives</u>
Total	<u>115,664</u>	<u>272,296</u>
Fully Subsidized, Welfare	24,393	28,780
Subsidized, Non-Welfare	69,923	193,663
Unsubsidized	21,348	49,853

<u>Premium Revenue</u>		* <u>\$4,980,215.00</u>
Paid by Subscribers	\$2,624,773.00	
Paid by Government Subsidy	\$2,355,442.00	
Welfare Contracts	\$ 675,546.00	
Subsidized Contracts	\$1,679,896.00	

Premium paid for Option B represents a per life revenue of \$18.29

Claims Expense

Claims expense for services to June 30th, 1969 (at December 31st, 1969 without allowance for presented and not paid, or unrepresented claims.)

Total paid \$5,833,887.77 represents a per life expense of	<u>\$21.42</u>
Drugs \$5,776,914.56 or 99.02% of claims expense \$21.21 per life	
Appliances \$ 56,973.21 or .98% of claims expense .21 per life	
<u>\$5,833,887.77</u>	<u>\$21.42</u>

Option C - Chiropractic and Naturopathy

<u>Enrolment</u>	<u>Average Contracts</u>	<u>Average Lives</u>
Total	<u>25,307</u>	<u>68,320</u>
Subsidized, Non-Welfare	20,211	56,960
Unsubsidized	5,096	11,360

<u>Premium Revenue</u>	* \$598,210.00
Paid by Subscribers	\$354,373.50
Paid by Government Subsidy	\$243,836.50

Premium paid for Option C represents a per life revenue of \$8.76

Claims Expense

Claims expense for services to June 30th, 1969 (at December 31st, 1969 without allowance for presented and not paid, or unrepresented claims.)

Total paid \$559,451.90 represents a per life expense of	<u>\$8.19</u>
Chiropractic \$540,103.90 or 96.54% of claims expense \$ 7.91 per life.	
Naturopathy \$ 19,348.00 or 3.46% of claims expense \$.28 per life.	
<u>\$559,451.90</u>	<u>\$ 8.19</u>

For the period July 1st, 1968 to June 30th, 1969 a total amount of * \$32,028,210.33 was collected for premiums. Of this amount \$12,987,689.67 was paid by subscribers and \$19,040,520.66 paid by the government in the form of subsidies to Social Service recipients and low income groups eligible for subsidy.

The amount paid for claims for all services for the period covered by the Second Plan Year was \$30,159,721.69.

The average number of contracts during the period was 160,259 covering 387,953 lives.

* Subject to Final Audit

APPROPRIATION 2443

Division of Arthritis Services

R. K. Thomson, B.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P.(C), F.A.C.P. - Director

The Division of Arthritis, with clinics in Edmonton and Calgary, continues to accept patients under the age of 25 years, who are suffering from or suspected to be suffering from Rheumatoid Arthritis, upon referral by the patient's personal physician. In the past year there has been no essential change in the number of new cases seen, but there has been an increase in the number of patients being returned for repeat examinations and advice. The patient is returned as quickly as possible to his physician with a detailed report covering the clinic visit. Hospitalization, medical care, corrective surgery, laboratory and x-ray examinations, physiotherapy and appliances, and the drugs used in the treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis, are all provided without charge to the patient.

While the clinics serve the purpose of assisting in the investigation, diagnosis and recommendations regarding treatment, perhaps their greatest value has been in the education of patients through consultation with their doctors regarding the best method of treating and living with Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Excerpt from the Statistical Compilation - 1969.

Treatments - January 1st to December 31st, 1969.

	<u>Edmonton</u>	<u>Calgary</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hospital days	624	98	722
Clinic and office visits	490	25	515
Physiotherapy treatments	277	4	281
Other: including surgical, injections and special procedures	<u>93</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>102</u>
Total Treatments	<u>1484</u>	<u>136</u>	<u>1620</u>

APPROPRIATIONS 2455 - 2457

Division of Tuberculosis Control

H. H. Stephens, M.D., - Director

This report shall be directed to four major areas:

1. Detection - methods
2. Tuberculosis Central Registry follow-up program and clinics
3. Prevention by use of chemoprophylaxis and vaccination
4. Treatment in the two Provincial Sanatoria.

1. Detection

Tuberculosis being an infectious disease is notifiable to the Director, Division of Tuberculosis Control under the Communicable Disease Regulations of the Province. It is transmitted by a germ, the tubercle bacillus, and is not inherited. It is insidious in its onset, often over a period of several weeks or months, and it is noted that while large numbers are infected, i.e. approximately 16% or 256,000 Albertans, the number that may be expected to develop clinical tuberculosis will vary between 3 - 5% during the next 20 years. It is important that screening programs for early detection of new active cases be maintained.

The 2 most effective methods of mass screening for tuberculosis is by use of the tuberculin test and/or the mobile miniature chest x-ray unit. There are, however, about 20 different sources of discovery of new cases which refers these to our attention. The chief among these is the family doctor who refers about 40% - the remaining 60% are divided among such areas as:

Mobile Chest X-ray Units

Tuberculin testing in schools

Follow-up of contacts of known cases

Health Unit, Municipal and District Nursing personnel in northern areas,
carrying out field work concerning tuberculosis

Indian Health Service surveys

Immigration notices

DVA and National Defence

Hospital admission tuberculin and x-ray programs

Alberta Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association x-ray screening units
in City Halls and in isolated northern areas

Tuberculin testing food handlers

Admission x-ray program in all Correctional Institutions

Provincial and Hospital Laboratory

X-ray program in all Mental Hospitals

Cancer Hospitals

Workmen's Compensation Board

Special surveys - barbers, beauticians, bus drivers, etc.

Industrial and pre-employment tuberculin testing and x-ray programs

Private x-ray survey unit

The following tables show the comparative incidence of tuberculosis during the past five years.

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
Total new cases	713	665	745	542	645
active cases	347	310	336	287	343
The active cases by groups: Indians	66	47	75	52	91
Metis	56	70	30	46	63
Others	225	193	231	189	189
Re-activated cases	56	31	49	40	36
Active cases as noted above	347	310	336	287	343
Total active	403	341	385	327	379

In 1969 there were 291 pulmonary and 52 non-pulmonary new active cases.

During 1969 there were three communities, Gift Lake, Chard and Fort Chipewyan, where small epidemics occurred, chiefly among the Metis and Indian population. It is reported that their mode of living is a contributing factor, usually large families in smaller homes where the socio-economic status is often below average. These conditions are conducive to the spread of any infection, to several members in a family. There were 23 admitted from Gift Lake, 25 from Chard, and 35 from Fort Chipewyan. The majority of these were primary or first infections, where a short period in hospital was necessary to establish therapy and to ensure that the patient was not infectious. The balance of therapy was then carried out at home. Repeat surveys and preventative measures have been carried out in these communities.

2. Tuberculosis Central Registry Follow-Up Program and Division Out-Patient Clinics

The Central Registry was established in 1950 to assist in the follow-up of contacts of all new active cases of tuberculosis, ex-sanatorium patients, previously diagnosed inactive cases of tuberculosis, and suspect cases detected in surveys and clinics. In 1967 the records were placed on Data Processing to improve service to patients, physicians, and medical officers of health in the cities and health units, as well as municipal nurses in northern areas. In September, 1968, the follow-up program of Registered Indians was incorporated into the Provincial program.

There are about 20,000 known cases of tuberculosis recorded in the Province, and about 50,000 contacts of known cases who make up a pool of higher than average risk persons who require observation, since a percentage do develop active disease, often several years from the date of contact.

Out-patient clinics - These are essential to support the follow-up program referred to above. Of greater importance is to ensure that patients complete their prescribed treatment for 18 to 24 months after the initial period in Sanatorium which averages 4 to 5 months.

The 2 major clinics are situated at the Sanatoria, but in addition there are 21 other locations in the Province where clinics are held at least twice yearly, and these have a physician from the Division in attendance.

The Baker Memorial Sanatorium clinic had 2,313 patients attend in 1969, and the Aberhart Memorial Sanatorium had 6,992. In addition, out-patient Streptomycin injections given numbered 1,584, also 350 B.C.G. vaccinations.

3. Prevention

It is also via the follow-up of cases through clinics that the preventative program is operated. B.C.G. vaccination is recommended and carried out among high risk groups.

Preventative chemoprophylaxis using one anti-tuberculous drug for a period of one year is also done on a selective basis of risk. This program is expected to reduce the chance of an individual developing clinical disease by at least 50%, and is considered very worthwhile. During 1969 there were approximately 490 patients established on chemoprophylaxis.

4. Treatment

Aberhart Memorial Sanatorium

There are at present 267 beds set up for the treatment of all types of active tuberculosis, both pulmonary and non-pulmonary.

During 1969 there were 455 patients admitted, compared to 372 in 1968. There were 118 patients in Hospital on January 1st, 1969, hence there were 573 patients treated during the year. In 1968 there were 536 treated.

There were 441 patients discharged and 9 deaths. The number of patient days was 54,096, compared to 68,716 in 1968. The average stay in hospital was 122.7 days or 4.1 months compared to 161.7 days or 5.4 months in 1968.

There were 15 major pulmonary operations, and 52 minor ones. Non-pulmonary major operations numbered 3, while there was 33 minor ones.

The X-ray Department reports in-patient x-rays 2,263, while out-patients numbered 8,064.

Laboratory procedures totalled 31,160 in 1969 compared to 24,814 in 1968.

Generally there was some increase in the work load of this institution.

Baker Memorial Sanatorium

There are at present 84 beds set up to treat all forms of active tuberculosis, and 145 beds in converted buildings for the care of mentally defective children under the Division of Mental Health.

There were 130 patients admitted to the tuberculosis section in 1969, and with 50 patients in hospital on January 1st, 1969, this gives a total of 180 patients treated in 1969. The number of patient days was 15,946 compared to 16,282 in 1968. There were 140 patients discharged and 12 deaths.

The X-ray Department reports in-patient x-rays taken were 871 and on out-patients, 2,934.

The Laboratory carried out 11,244 procedures in 1969 compared with 15,937 in 1968. There has been a slight decline in the work load at the institution.

APPROPRIATIONS 2460 - 2477

Division of Mental Health

A. R. Schrag, M.D., C.R.C.P.S.(C) - Director

Nineteen sixty-nine was a year of change and consolidation with an increase and strengthening of the staff in the various branches of the Division. There was difficulty re-recruiting specialists in psychiatry and the senior positions in the Departments of Psychology and Social Work.

During the year there were several changes in senior personnel. Dr. J. L. Paterson, Medical Superintendent, Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, resigned in June and was replaced by Dr. C. P. Hellon. At the end of the year Mrs. E. D. Scott (the former Miss E. D. Kemp) and Mr. E. S. James, the Director and Associate Director of Nursing, Alberta Hospital, Ponoka, retired on superannuation after having given many years of effective and loyal service. Mrs. O. A. Noonan, Director of Nursing, Rosehaven, Camrose, retired after 39 years of service with the Government in November.

At the Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, a new Ward Building and a new Admission Building were brought into service providing greatly improved facilities for the treatment of admissions and reducing the overcrowding of other buildings which permitted an expansion of the Industrial Therapy Department.

A new Ward Building at Rosehaven, Camrose, permitted the removal of all patients from the third floor of the Main Building thus decreasing the fire hazards and providing additional space for administrative offices and occupational therapy.

There appears to be a changing pattern of admissions particularly from the southern part of the Province where the total admissions to the Alberta Hospital, Ponoka, were 316 (24%) less than the admissions in 1968. There was only a slight drop of admissions to the Alberta Hospital, Edmonton of 74 (3.2%). There was a drop in the number of patients in residence in the Alberta Hospitals, Ponoka and Edmonton of 7.2% and 8.1% respectively. There was a drop of 11.2% of the number of patients in residence at Rosehaven, Camrose.

Admissions to the Alberta Hospital, Ponoka, were 987 and to the Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, were 2,207.

Mode of Admission of Patients

Method	Alberta Hospital, Edmonton				Alberta Hospital, Ponoka			
	First	%	Readmission	%	First	%	Readmission	%
Voluntary	438	40.5	753	66.8	116	22.7	228	47.9
Two Certificates	349	32.2	171	15.2	247	48.8	171	35.8
One Emergency Certificate	111	10.2	89	7.9	73	14.4	57	11.5
Warrant for Examination	59	5.5	51	4.6	5	.9	3	.6
Order of the Lieutenant-Governor	-	-	-	-	3	.5	2	.4
Remand	93	8.6	39	3.5	44	8.9	9	1.8
Transfer From Provincial Gaol for Examination	24	2.2	19	1.7	19	3.8	6	1.2
Transfer From Penitentiary	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	.8
Warrant Under T.B. Act	1	.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
From N.W.T.	7	.7	3	.3	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1,082	100.0	1,125	100.0	507	100.0	480	100.0

In-Service Training of Staff

All institutions provided orientation and basic instruction for new untrained staff members being brought onto staff. In addition, 55 staff members were sent to conferences and seminars for a total of 366 days in areas involving professional association meetings of a provincial or national nature, training seminars for fire fighters, International Symposium for Retarded Children, training workshops and specialized courses. An additional 105 members of the staff attended one to two day special training clinics.

Members of the staff of the larger active treatment hospitals and guidance clinics participated in an educational program of specialty training of psychiatrists, social workers and psychologists.

Research

Funds were made available by the Department for the completion of four studies:

Comparison of Variables in Juvenile Court Population and Guidance Clinic Population

Comparison of Normal and Emotionally Disturbed Children on the Effectiveness - Motivation Scale

Internal Consistency of Thought and Intelligence

Non-Communicative Thought in Co-operative Psychotics
in co-operation with the Departments of Psychology of
the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary.

In addition Federal Health Grants were approved for four research projects in the total of \$50,360.15.

Studies of Various Treatments of Thumb and Finger Sucking
and Their Psychological and Dental Effects

Factor Analytic Studies of Tests of Human Brain Damage

Key Factors and Their Interaction in the Etiology of Depression

Methods for Education of Stress Reactions in Normals and Neurotics.

These projects were carried on at the University of Alberta and at the University of Calgary.

Advisory Committee Under The Psychiatric Nursing Training Act

The Mental Deficiency Nursing program in its first year of experience with the two-year course of training has showed a considerably higher retention of students than was formerly experienced.

To permit the reorganization of the Psychiatric Nursing training program to a two-year course no candidates were accepted for training during 1969. The course will recommence September, 1970.

Certificates of Eligibility were issued to 103 persons, these may become Certificates of Qualification after the candidate has worked in an Alberta hospital setting for a three-month period. In addition 91 Certificates of Qualification were issued. There were 34 persons who graduated in the Psychiatric Nursing training programs. Twelve graduated in the combined Registered Nurse-Psychiatric Nurse training program and 32 in the Mental Deficiency training program.

Review Panels

The Review Panels continued to function satisfactorily. There was an increase in the number of total complaints submitted to the Review Panels, 85 as against 83 in 1968. Ten certificates were found to be no longer warranted. At the Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, there was a total of 51 complaints from 48 patients, 9 certificates were revoked and at the Alberta Hospital, Ponoka, there was a total of 34 complaints from 32 patients and 1 certificate was revoked.

The total number of persons for whom certificates were revoked (10) represents .5% of the total number of persons for whom certificates were issued. In all there were 2,058 persons certified at both hospitals.

Certificates revoked at the Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, represents .7% and at the Alberta Hospital, Ponoka, .1% of certificates completed on patients of that hospital.

The total number of patients in each of the institutions is shown in Table II by years (it should be noted that there are some corrections from the Interim Annual Report submitted in 1968) as these figures are compiled from the monthly returns and are subject to errors which are corrected in the final Annual Report. Table III shows the movement of patient population by institution.

Active Treatment Hospitals

Alberta Hospital, Edmonton - (App'n 2465)

Dr. J. L. Paterson resigned as Medical Superintendent in June and Dr. C. P. Hellon was appointed Medical Superintendent. The medical staff was strengthened by one of the post-graduate medical students successfully completing his specialty examination in psychiatry. There were two medical students in their third year of specialty training. Three certified psychiatrists gave part-time service to the hospital.

The seminars in psychiatry to undergraduate medical students from the University of Alberta were continued and in-service training of the nursing staff was continued.

Studies for reorganization of programs to obtain accreditation for this hospital continued and it is expected that an application for accreditation will be made in 1970.

The Social Service Department continued to be very busy placing 104 patients in foster homes, 40 patients in half-way houses, 80 patients in nursing homes and auxiliary hospitals and 4,203 out-patient visits.

With the opening of the new Ward Building and the new Admission Building which was named after Dr. A. D. MacPherson, a former Medical Superintendent, it was possible to empty Wards 1A and 3A which were overcrowded and unsatisfactory.

Industrial therapy involved some 182 patients in sheltered workshop activity in the hospital and in the sheltered workshop in the City of Edmonton.

There were 112 students in the Psychiatric Nursing training program of whom 24 graduated. Two hundred and twenty nursing students from General Hospitals took their affiliation training in psychiatry at the Alberta Hospital; Edmonton.

Although there were no definite research programs conducted by the hospital, other persons participated and used facilities of the hospital to complete special studies. Dr. C. P. Hellon completed a Retrospective Study of Mental Illness Among The Native Population of Alberta and the North West Territories, presenting the same to the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Psychiatric Association. The hospital also co-operated in university research projects.

There were no major epidemics of disease. There was one suicide. The general health of the patients was maintained at a high level.

Alberta Hospital, Ponoka - (App'n 2463)

Recruiting of professional staff, particularly specialists in psychiatry and senior psychologists, continued to be very difficult. A registered pharmacist was obtained.

The number of admissions to this hospital dropped from 1,301 to 987. The number of patients in residence as of December 31st dropped from 905 to 818. There were 87 patients on leave or otherwise absent as of December 31st.

A new modern laundry was opened in April and has functioned well except for a few minor adjustments to the equipment.

Health of the patients was maintained throughout the year without any major epidemics although towards the end of the year there were a number of streptococcal throat infections.

There was a total of 62 deaths, the majority being due to illnesses of the older age groups. There was one suicide.

The Social Service Department made 473 placements, 53 in nursing homes, 123 in after-care homes, 25 in half-way houses, 75 in employment, 72 in rehabilitation centres, and 125 in other placements. There were 56 patients involved in sheltered workshop activities.

There were 44 students in the Psychiatric Nursing training program, 10 of whom graduated. There were 46 students involved in the combined Registered Nurse-Psychiatric Nurse training program, 12 of whom graduated. There were 233 student nurses involved in affiliation programs for training in Psychiatric Nursing from General Hospitals Schools of Nursing.

The Out-Patient Department of the Alberta Hospital, Ponoka, at the Foothills Hospital, Calgary, continued to work effectively and undoubtedly was a factor in reducing the number of patients who might have been readmitted. This Department involves a half-time specialist psychiatrist and three social workers. Contact was maintained with 658 persons with a workload of 4,453 interviews.

Rosehaven, Camrose - (App'n 2467)

Mrs. O. A. Noonan, Director of Nursing, who had been in charge of this hospital since its inception in 1948, retired on superannuation and Mrs. R. Olsen was appointed as her successor.

Admissions to Rosehaven were generally restricted and were limited to 27 patients who were transferred from the Alberta Hospital, Edmonton and the Alberta Hospital, Ponoka. The general state of the patients transferred showed a more advanced degree of physical and mental deterioration. The majority of these patients had previously been in one or more nursing homes prior to admission to a mental hospital.

The general health of the patients was good in view of the advanced age group. There were no epidemics. There were 76 deaths, the cause of which were primarily due to illnesses related to advanced age.

The number of patients in residence as of December 31st was reduced from 452 in 1968 to 401 in 1969.

The opening of Westrose, a new Ward Building, facilitated the discontinuance of the use of dormitories on the third floor of the Main Building and helped to relieve overcrowding on other floors.

Areas in the Main Building were renovated to provide more suitable administrative offices, classrooms and an improved location for occupational therapy.

While there were vacancies for registered nurses the other staff positions were well filled.

Alberta Hospital, Claresholm - (App'n 2468)

This continued care hospital operated at high levels of efficiency during 1969. The old staff residences were demolished and the nurses home annex was removed. Landscaping was undertaken and the general quality of accommodation was maintained at a high level.

A new passenger bus was obtained to provide outings for patients.

A placement officer was recruited for this hospital and several groups of patients were involved in employment projects within the community.

The general health of the patients continued at a satisfactory level, however, a larger number of patients are reaching advanced ages and the nursing care for them is becoming heavy.

An x-ray survey of all patients was made by the Mobile X-Ray Unit of the Division of Tuberculosis Control in May.

Thirty-two patients were admitted during the year on transfer from the Alberta Hospitals, Edmonton and Ponoka. There were 16 deaths, mostly related to diseases of the senium.

There was a reduction of nine patients on books and at the end of the year nine patients were on leave or otherwise absent.

Alberta Hospital, Raymond - (App'n 2469)

There was one first admission and four admissions by transfer from other Alberta Hospitals to this unit. One patient was discharged and there were four deaths, one due to cancer and three due to diseases of advanced age. There were no epidemics or suicides.

General improvements in equipment and maintenance of the buildings added to the patients comfort. Dental facilities were improved as was the kitchen and dining room.

Institutions for the Retarded

Alberta School Hospital, Red Deer - (App'n 2475)

There were 81 admissions to the Alberta School Hospital and to the Paediatric Unit at Baker Memorial Sanatorium, Calgary.

Forty-eight patients were discharged. There were 20 deaths, 12 of which were among patients who were very physically handicapped and severely retarded.

Except for an epidemic infection of shigella the health of the patients was satisfactory. Sources of the continuation of this infection was searched for and inadequacies in the laundry and kitchen rinse waters were found. Steps have been taken to deal with this problem by the addition of chemicals and improved water heating equipment.

Four major drug studies were carried out with respect to the effectiveness of various tranquilizing drug preparations on brain damaged hyperactive and psychiatrically disturbed patients. Papers on two of these studies have been published.

There were 71 student nurses in the training program, 61 females and 10 males. Thirty-two students graduated as Mental Deficiency nurses, four of whom were men.

The Parent-School Organization purchased an attractive four bedroom dwelling to which it was possible to discharge ten patients. These girls have shown dramatic improvement in their attitude, industry and social reactions. There has been no community rejection of this group home as the behaviour patterns of the ex-trainees had been well established at satisfactory levels before discharge.

Deerhome, Red Deer - (App'n 2477)

There were 37 voluntary admissions and three transfers during the past year. Sixty-two Detention or Renewal certificates were written. There were no complaints to the Review Panel.

The general health of the patients was good. On three occasions strains of Corynebacterium Diphtheria Mitis were isolated, all proved to be nontoxogenic. There were 15 deaths, most of which were related to chronic physical conditions.

There were 132 patients on leave at the end of the year. Four trainees were accepted at the Agricultural College, Olds, for training and 12 have been placed in the Vocational Research and Rehabilitation Institute, Calgary. There were 89 patients working in the community during the day and 53 on work placements on a monthly basis.

An addition to the sewing room Laundry Building was occupied in April. This provided much needed additional space for the sorting of laundry and for the sewing room which repairs and renovates clothing.

The Psychology and Social Work Departments were expanded with an addition of a new senior social worker to provide more adequate follow-up of trainees placed in outside working conditions. A psychologist has been employed since the middle of the year and is of great assistance in evaluating and counselling of patients.

In-service education programs continued for 102 junior and senior staff.

Linden House, Red Deer - (App'n 2472)

This residential unit for the treatment of emotionally disturbed children continued to function much as in the past, there being 12 children on the books at the end of the year, five of whom were permitted to leave.

There were six new admissions and seven separations. Of the seven separations, four patients were discharged to their homes, one to a foster home and two were transferred to the Alberta School Hospital.

The school continues to operate on an open door policy. As in the past it has been recognized that these children come from severely socially disorganized family environments and difficulties arise in returning them to the community unless the environment from which they came has been improved.

The Eugenics Board for the Province of Alberta - (App'n 2460)

The Eugenics Board considered a total of 65 cases, 60 of which were passed for surgery. Five cases were deferred because they did not fall within the scope of The Sexual Sterilization Act. Of the 60 cases which were passed by the Board in accordance with The Sexual Sterilization Act (1955-C.311,S.5), 25 were male and 35 female.

Of the 60 cases passed by the Board during the year, 54 had first been examined at an Alberta Guidance Clinic, although some of these had been hospitalized prior to presentation. This group of 54 cases was made up of 25 males and 29 females.

Operations were performed on 63 cases during the year, 25 being male and 38 female. Consent for all operations performed was given by the patient or guardian.

Alberta Guidance Clinics - (App'n 2460)

The Guidance Clinics functioned much as they have in previous years. While there was a drop in the total number of persons seen in the Clinics there was an increase in the number of patient interviews and the total workload. There was an increase in the total of professional staff in the full-time clinics.

Calgary

One thousand, six hundred and eighty-four patients were registered.

The Clinic made a significant education and training contribution embracing post-graduate and under-graduate students in Psychology, Social Welfare and Nursing as well as providing in-service training for psychology and social work staff and trainees for the Certificate in Psychiatry of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. In addition, two research projects were completed by research assistants.

The Psychiatric and Educational Centre continued its important work with autistic children and a small special unit for autistic children was established at the Alberta Children's Hospital.

Edmonton and Grande Prairie

Two thousand, two hundred and twenty-two patients were registered in the above Clinics.

The Edmonton Clinic provided considerable in-service training for psychology and social work staff and trainees for the Certificate in Psychiatry of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

These Clinics serve the Edmonton and northern area, consequently the employment of travelling clinics is an important facet of their operations.

The resignation of the senior psychologist in Grande Prairie during the year resulted in curtailment of some services.

Red Deer

This Clinic continued to be busy. Because of its geographical location and the absence of psychiatrists in private practice in Red Deer the number of adults treated, in relation to children, is proportionately higher than in the clinics of the larger cities.

Lethbridge and Medicine Hat

Both of these Clinics assessed and treated more patients during the year and the workload showed a considerable increase. Fortunately the Lethbridge Clinic was able to acquire an experienced Director in the latter part of the year.

Ponoka

There was a marked decrease in the number of patients seen by this part-time Clinic. This was the result of inability to obtain sufficient medical personnel to staff this service, as well as a lessened demand for services.

The number of professional staff, the new and re-registered cases and distribution of work are shown in Table IV.

TABLE II

ALBERTA HOSPITAL POPULATION BY YEARS

YEAR		A.H., EDMONTON	A.H., PONOKA	TOTAL IN ACTIVE TREATMENT	A.H., CLARESHOLM	A.H., RAYMOND	ROSEHAVEN	TOTAL MENTAL DISORDER.	DEERHOME	SCHOOL HOSPITAL	TOTAL DEFECTIVE	TOTAL
1955	On Books	1,577	1,622	3,199	100	-	-	3,848	-	698	698	4,407
1,066,000	In Res.	1,476	1,585	3,061	99	134	415	3,709	-	-	-	4,407
1956	On Books	1,641	1,572	3,213	97	-	-	3,949	-	698	698	4,466
1,123,116	In Res.	1,512	1,521	3,033	96	134	505	3,768	-	-	-	4,466
1957	On Books	1,646	1,575	3,221	97	-	-	3,952	-	707	707	4,503
1,160,000	In Res.	1,543	1,523	3,066	96	133	501	3,796	-	-	-	4,503
1958	On Books	1,608	1,426	3,034	100	-	-	3,761	-	758	758	4,630
1,201,000	In Res.	1,434	1,378	2,812	98	132	495	3,537	335	-	1,093	4,630
1959	On Books	1,609	1,102	2,711	110	-	-	3,460	-	734	-	4,615
1,243,000	In Res.	1,427	1,034	2,461	106	136	503	3,206	675	-	1,409	4,615
1960	On Books	1,621	1,130	2,751	111	-	-	3,498	-	756	-	4,770
1,283,000	In Res.	1,410	1,052	2,462	105	131	505	3,203	811	-	1,567	4,770
1961	On Books	1,613	1,269	2,882	112	132	-	3,628	-	718	-	4,919
1,331,944	In Res.	1,456	1,174	2,630	108	131	502	3,371	830	-	1,548	4,919
1962	On Books	1,571	1,210	2,781	110	-	-	3,510	-	796	-	5,027
1,370,000	In Res.	1,441	1,120	2,561	107	120	499	3,287	944	-	1,740	5,027
1963	On Books	1,575	1,160	2,735	199	-	-	3,559	-	844	-	5,126
1,405,000	In Res.	1,441	1,062	2,503	196	124	501	3,324	958	-	1,802	5,126
1964	On Books	1,564	1,179	2,743	237	119	-	3,599	-	869	-	5,199
1,432,000	In Res.	1,409	1,100	2,509	231	116	500	3,356	974	-	1,843	5,199
1965	On Books	1,518	1,174	2,692	330	123	-	3,642	-	861	-	5,364
1,451,000	In Res.	1,345	1,087	2,432	322	118	497	3,369	1,134	922	1,995	5,364
1966	On Books	1,470	1,126	2,596	348	120	-	3,548	-	-	-	5,356
1,463,203	In Res.	1,243	1,029	2,272	342	117	484	3,215	1,219	-	2,141	5,356
1967	On Books	1,361	1,027	2,388	347	121	-	3,323	-	977	-	5,233
1,490,000	In Res.	1,141	960	2,101	341	119	467	3,028	1,228	-	2,205	5,233
1968	On Books	1,188	996	2,184	449	77	452	3,162	1,361	1,008	2,369	5,531
1,526,000	In Res.	996	882	1,878	441	77	452	2,848	1,229	779	2,008	4,856
1969	On Books	1,059	905	1,964	440	77	401	2,882	1,328	1,024	2,352	5,234
1,573,000	In Res.	916	818	1,734	431	75	401	2,641	1,221	805	2,026	4,667

TABULATED SUMMARY - INSTITUTIONS - MOVEMENT OF POPULATION

	PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL December 31, 1968			ADMISSIONS (Excluding Transfers*)			DISCHARGES (Excluding Transfers)			DEATHS			PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL December 31, 1969		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
<u>ACUTE MENTAL HOSPITALS:</u>															
Alberta Hospital, Ponoka	577	305	882	608	365	973	605	357	962	45	17	62	518	300	818
Alberta Hospital, Edmonton	610	386	996	1,368	839	2,207	1,339	886	2,225	46	44	90	572	344	916
Total	1,187	691	1,878	1,976	1,204	3,180	1,944	1,243	3,187	91	61	152	1,090	644	1,734
<u>CONTINUED TREATMENT HOSPITALS:</u>															
Rosehaven, Camrose	240	212	452	19	8	27	-	2	2	45	31	76	214	187	401
Alberta Hospital, Claresholm	169	272	441	12	18	30	8	15	23	4	12	16	168	263	431
Alberta Hospital, Raymond	-	76	76	-	4	4	-	1	1	-	5	5	-	75	75
Total	409	560	969	31	32	63	8	18	26	49	48	97	382	525	907
<u>INSTITUTIONS FOR MENTAL DEFECTIVES, RED DEER:</u>															
Alberta School Hospital	421	358	779	36	45	81	22	30	52	10	12	22	431	367	798
Deerhome	674	555	1,229	20	17	37	20	9	29	7	10	17	671	550	1,221
Total	1,095	913	2,008	56	62	118	42	39	81	17	22	39	1,102	917	2,019
<u>UNIT FOR EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED CHILDREN, LINDEN HOUSE, RED DEER:</u>															
	7	6	13	5	1	6	4	3	7	-	-	-	4	3	7
Overall Totals	2,698	2,170	4,868	2,068	1,299	3,367	1,998	1,303	3,301	157	131	288	2,578	2,089	4,667

*Transfer means the movement of a certified patient from one provincial mental hospital to another.

TABLE IV

PROFESSIONAL STAFF, NEW AND RE-REGISTERED CASES, TREATMENT PERIODS, INTERVIEWS, PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

AND WORKLOAD BY CLINIC AREAS

CLINIC AREA	STAFF			NEW CASES			RE-REGISTERED CASES			DISTRIBUTION OF WORK				WORKLOAD
	Psychiatrists	Psychologists	Social Workers	M	F	T	M	F	T	Pat.	Col.	Gen.	P.E.	
Calgary and District	3 5/12	9 10/12	9 9/12	524	281	805	586	293	879	11,002	6,523	21,168	2,737	41,430
Edmonton and District	4 2/12	14 2/12	15 2/12	1069	549	1618	378	226	604	6,446	8,974	14,205	3,376	33,001
Lethbridge, Medicine Hat & District	2/12	3 4/12	3 10/12	320	234	554	196	122	318	2,742	3,717	714	784	7,957
Ponoka and District	.5/12	.5/12	-	7	17	24	22	51	73	86	13	1	7	107
Red Deer and District	1	2	1 4/12	267	305	572	107	111	218	2,361	1,727	394	433	4,915
TOTALS	8-9.5/12	29-4.5/12	30-1/12	2187	1386	3573	1289	803	2092	22,637	20,954	36,482	7,337	87,410

Total New Cases Since 1929 57,947

Edmonton and District - Area East and West from Wetaskiwin North. Clinics held in Athabasca, Barrhead, Bonnyville, Camrose, Edson, Fort McMurray, Holden, Killam, Lac La Biche, Lamont, Peace River, Grande Prairie, Smoky Lake, St. Paul, Two Hills, Thorhild, Vegreville, Vermilion, Wainwright, Westlock and Wetaskiwin.

Calgary and District - Area East and West from Didsbury to Claresholm. Clinics held in Drumheller, Three Hills and Hanna. Lechbridge and Medicine Hat Districts - Area East and West from Claresholm South. Clinics held in Brooks, Crowsnest Pass, Pincher Creek and Vulcan. Ponoka, Red Deer and Districts - East and West from Wetaskiwin to Didsbury. Clinics held in Castor, Stettler, Rimbey, Rocky Mountain House, Ponoka and Red Deer.

New Cases - Patients examined for the first time by any Guidance Clinic in the Province.

Re-Registered Cases - Patient has been examined in Alberta Guidance Clinic prior to present year.

Pat. - Patient Interview, Diagnosis or Therapeutic.
Col. - Collateral Contact with Parents, Relatives or those closely interested or related to the patient.
Gen. - General Contact regarding Clinic activity, including those with other agencies and community services including talks, addresses and teaching periods by staff members.

P.E. - Psychological Examinations and Tests.

Provincial Board of Health

The Provincial Board of Health met on eight occasions during 1969. Two of the meetings were called to deal with specific subjects while the other six covered many matters having a bearing on health standards.

One of the two special meetings considered the installation of sewer and water systems within a large mobile home park. The Board decided that its regulations requiring that such installations use separate trenches should apply for the protection of the health of the occupants of the park. At the other special meeting matters affecting the establishment of two large cattle feed lots close to urban municipalities were considered.

Four orders made by the Board were approved by orders in council. The first of these required the installation of air pollution control equipment at an Edmonton plywood plant. Another order required a coal mining company in the Crowsnest Pass area to provide an aerating and settling pond to prevent water pollution from a mine. The other two Board orders require the installation of sewerage treatment facilities for the townsites of Banff and Jasper.

New regulations approved by orders in council during the year included Regulations Respecting Camp Grounds and Holiday Trailer Parks, Regulations Respecting Feed Lots, Pig Keeping, Fox Farms and Fur Farms, Regulations Respecting Mobile Home Parks, Regulations Respecting General Administration, Regulations Respecting the Use of Pesticides and Regulations Respecting Restaurants. In addition, amendments to other regulations were approved by two orders in council.

There are a few towns in the Province which have sewage collection systems and which have not installed any treatment facilities. There are also a few towns where the treatment facilities are no longer adequate. The Board has given instructions in these cases for the installation of or addition to sewage treatment facilities. The Board kept all of these under continual review to ensure that a satisfactory rate of progress was being maintained.

A number of instances were reported to the Board during the year in which persons suffering from or suspected to be suffering from communicable forms of tuberculosis were refusing treatment or examination. Under authority contained in the Communicable Disease Regulations, 13 persons were ordered to sanatoria for treatment or examination.

The Board assisted in the publication of certain information. These included a Summary of Surface Water Criteria and a brochure on the establishment and operation of Modified Landfills for refuse disposal.

The Board considered many other matters during the year and gave direction where proper to Local Boards of Health and to the various divisions of the Department of Health to promote improved standards of health for the people of the Province.

Report of the Provincial Laboratory of Public Health

J. M. S. Dixon, M.D., M.C.Path., Dip.Bact. - Director

During 1969, the Provincial Laboratories of Public Health at Edmonton and Calgary examined 591,546 specimens. This is an increase of 38,186 (6.9%) over the number tested in 1968. The Edmonton laboratory examined 8.3% more specimens; and the Calgary laboratory, where severe limitations of space restrict the number and type of specimens that can be examined, received 2.7% more than in the previous year. Some details are presented in the accompanying table.

Bacteriology

The diagnostic work increased in all sections, but particularly in the enteric section at Edmonton which received 25.4% more specimens of faeces than in 1968. Interest in diphtheria bacilli has continued, and a total of 436 strains were isolated, 38.5% of which were toxigenic. Most of the infected patients live in the northern half of the Province.

An automated technique for the determination of antistreptolysin O in blood was brought into routine use during the year in Edmonton. This test is of value in the study of streptococcal infections and their sequelae, particularly rheumatic fever.

A membrane filtration technique for the bacteriological examination of water was introduced in the summer at Edmonton. This improved method is being used for testing most treated urban water supplies.

Virology

There were no major outbreaks of viral disease in 1969 once the influenza epidemic had passed in January, but increasing use is being made of the diagnostic service and the number of specimens of blood tested for virus antibodies shows an increase of 21% over last year. Improvements in methods have enabled virological reports to be made more quickly than hitherto. In recent years the probable causative agents of infectious mononucleosis and viral hepatitis have been discovered, and diagnostic tests for these two conditions are now being developed at the Provincial Laboratory. Virological work continues to be performed only at the Edmonton laboratory.

Pathology

The histopathology and cytopathology services continued to be very active both at Edmonton and Calgary and the volume of work increased again during the year. The number of cervical smears examined for malignant changes increased by 7.2%.

General

The mobile laboratory was used during the summer months to examine water supplies in Western regions of the Province. This provided valuable experience in the operation of this unit under field conditions.

Efforts are being made to transmit laboratory reports more rapidly than by the postal services. A trial of a telecommunications system has begun at Edmonton and the reactions of those utilizing it are encouraging.

WORK PERFORMED IN 1969 AT THE PROVINCIAL LABORATORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

	Number of Specimens Examined at	
<u>Diagnostic Bacteriology</u>	<u>Edmonton</u>	<u>Calgary</u>
Nose and throat swabs	33,674	11,929
Faeces and rectal swabs	23,204	2,096
Urine	11,589	4,069
Sputum for tuberculosis	11,276	2,705
Other specimens for tuberculosis	5,689	966
Sputum for bacteria other than tubercle	3,769	1,003
Blood cultures	621	233
Genital specimens for gonorrhoea	29,566	8,549
Cultures referred for identification	1,363	37
Organisms typed by phage, etc.	5,296	0
Other specimens	13,377	9,952
<u>Diagnostic Serology</u>		
Blood for syphilis	162,772	53,619
Blood for enteric infections (Widal)	742	282
Blood for streptococcal antibodies	3,563	0
Other specimens	1,067	775
<u>Diagnostic Parasitology</u>		
Faeces for intestinal parasites	872	151
Vaginal specimens for trichomonas	25,086	3,536
<u>Diagnostic Mycology</u>		
Skin, hair, and nail specimens	2,343	157
Other specimens	1,392	3,078
<u>Sanitary Bacteriology</u>		
Water	14,881	5,493
Food, milk and cream	166	123
Environmental and other specimens	55	129
<u>Diagnostic Virology</u>		
Throat swabs for virus culture	397	0
Faeces for virus culture	508	0
Other specimens for culture	1,472	0
Blood for virus antibodies	3,455	0
Other specimens	848	0
<u>Animal Inoculation</u>		
Specimens for tuberculosis	452	460
Specimens for virus studies	977	0
Other specimens	29	25
<u>Diagnostic Pathology</u>		
Cervical smears	63,401	22,333
Fluids	978	209
Blood smears and bone marrows	121	228
Routine diagnostic histology	26,350	6,668
Routine autopsy histology	1,362	28
Totals	452,713	138,833
Total number of specimens examined	591,546	

Canadian Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service in Alberta

D. I. Buchanan, M.D., D.P.H., (Edmonton)

E. W. Nation, M.B., M.R.C.P., (Calgary)

We have pleasure in submitting the annual report on the Blood Transfusion Service in Alberta for 1969. Statistics on voluntary blood donations to the Red Cross are noted in Table I.

Table I

Units of Blood Collected, 1969

<u>Jan. 1 to Dec.31</u> <u>(inclusive)</u>	<u>Permanent and</u> <u>City Mobiles</u>	<u>Mobile Clinics</u>	
Northern Alberta	25,677	18,655	= 44,332
Southern Alberta	<u>25,170</u>	<u>15,536</u>	= <u>40,706</u>
	50,847	34,191	85,038

Blood Transfusions

Approximately 150 hospitals still depend upon the Edmonton and Calgary Depots for crossmatching services. The number of units of blood issued to hospitals and the number of patients transfused is given in Table 2.

Table 2

Transfusions of Whole Blood, 1969

<u>Jan. 1 to Dec.31</u> <u>(inclusive)</u>	<u>No. Units</u> <u>Issued</u>	<u>Patients</u> <u>Transfused</u>
Northern Alberta	38,874	10,293
Southern Alberta	<u>34,631</u>	<u>8,669</u>
	73,505	18,962

Plasma

Plasma from Edmonton and Calgary is now being shipped in two-litre plastic packs instead of the glass flasks which had been used in previous years. A total of 1,847 two-litre plastic packs of liquid plasma was shipped to the Connaught Laboratories from Edmonton during 1969, and 2,097 two-litre plastic packs were sent from Calgary.

Factor VIII Cryoprecipitate

The heavy demand for cryoprecipitate in the treatment of patients suffering from hemophilia A continues, and a high proportion of fresh donor blood must be obtained for this purpose at our daily clinics. During 1969, 4,847 units of Factor VIII cryoprecipitate were prepared in Edmonton and 2,941 units were prepared by the Calgary Depot.

Very little fresh frozen plasma is now required, although group specific plasma is still widely used in the treatment of Christmas disease.

Rh Prevention Program

Although the main clinical trials of the new anti-Rh gamma globulin preparation ended in July 1969, suitable Rh negative women donors whose sera contain a high level of anti-Rh activity are still donating plasma in Edmonton, it being our hope that sufficient anti-Rh gamma globulin can then be provided to treat all the Rh negative obstetrical patients in Alberta who require this new form of preventive therapy. The work of screening the patients is still being carried out as before in both depots, and the hospital or doctor concerned is notified immediately when anti-Rh gamma globulin is indicated.

A further paper on our findings in Edmonton has been published in The Lancet, August 9th, 1969, pp. 288-290.

Rh and Antenatal Studies

A total of 41,609 antenatal, postnatal and related specimens was tested in 1969, as shown in Table 3.

Table 3

Rh, and Other Investigations, 1969

<u>Jan. 1 to Dec. 31</u> <u>(inclusive)</u>	<u>Antenatal Specimens and</u> <u>Others Investigated</u>
Northern Alberta	24,593
Southern Alberta	<u>17,016</u>
	41,609

It should be noted that this is an increase over 1968 when 40,934 samples were tested.

In conclusion, we would like to express our sincere thanks to the many volunteers who participate in this service. The advice of the Minister and Deputy Minister of Health has been greatly appreciated, as well as that of the members of the committee and B.T.S. staff who are continually striving to improve this service in Alberta.

